

Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Subject: Adoption of New and Revised Policies and Procedures

November 14, 2006

6:00-8:00 PM

Forman Center Auditorium (Room C)

Rhode Island College

Mt. Pleasant Avenue Complex

Providence, RI 02908

The Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) will hold a Public Hearing to discuss the adoption of the following the following new and revised rules:

Implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act - Revised rule, formerly entitled Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) has been updated to reflect the principles of family centered practice and is consistent with the mandates of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) (PL 95-608) ensuring services provided to Indian families are culturally relevant. The previous version of this rule, refiled 1/2/02, is superseded by this amended version.

Early Intervention Referral Process for Children Involved with DCYF - Proposed rule provides that all children under the age of three (3) who are victims of indicated child abuse or neglect are screened for Early Intervention (EI) services in compliance with the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) (PL 108-36).

Collaboration Between DCYF and DHS to Improve Services for Dual-System Families - Revised rule, formerly Notification to DHS of Child's Removal From/Return To the Home, has been updated to reflect how the Departments will collaborate on the delivery of casework services and coordinate activities required of parents in their DHS Family Independence Program (FIP) Employment Plans and DCYF Service Plans. The previous version of this rule, refiled 1/2/02, is superseded by this amended version.

Reporting Child Abuse and/or Neglect - Revised rule, in compliance with RIGL 40-11-2, now includes in the definition of "person responsible for child's welfare" "any individual, eighteen (18) years of age or older, who resides in the home of a parent or guardian and has unsupervised access to a child. The previous version of this rule, refiled 1/2/02, is superseded by this amended version.

Foster Care Review - Revised rule, formerly Case Plan Review, reflects current law and principles of Family Centered Practice. The previous version of this rule, refiled 1/2/02, is superseded by this amended version.

Criteria for a Child Protective Services Investigation - Revised rule provides that DCYF will issue an alert to area hospitals when it is believed that there may be risk of harm to a child born to a parent with a history of substantiated child abuse or neglect or a child abuse/neglect conviction and will investigate the situation upon the birth of the infant to ensure the safety of the child. The previous version of this rule, amended 1/22/02, is superseded by this amended version.

Information/Referral (I/R) Reports - Revised rule, formerly Information and Referral Calls Through the Call Floor, provides a process for handling a report made to the Child Protective Services Call Floor Hotline that contains a concern about the well-being of a child but does not meet the criteria for an investigation. The previous version of this rule, refiled 1/2/02, is superseded by this amended version.

The proposed rules are accessible on the DCYF website (<http://www.dcyf.ri.gov>) or available in hard copy upon request (401 528-3686 or TDD - RI Relay, call 711 and ask the operator to connect you to 401 528-3686). Interested persons should submit data, views or written comments by November 24, 2006 to

Dorothy Hultine, Chief of Practice Standards, Department of Children, Youth and Families, 101 Friendship Street, Providence, RI 02903.

This hearing is held and the regulations are processed in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

The Forman Center is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Department at 401 528-3548 (hearing/speech impaired, dial 711) at least 72 hours in advance of the Hearing date.

The Department of Children, Youth and Families does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin or handicap in acceptance for or provision of services or employment in its programs or activities.

Patricia Martinez, Director